

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 039524
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DRAFTED BY NEA:ALATHERTON, JR./HLK
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
S/S-0 SGOLDSMITH
NSC - MR. QUANDT

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O 150126Z FEB 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 039524

NODIS
FOR AMBS OR CHARGES FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (BEGIN, MENACHEM), IS, US

SUBJECT: VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER BEGIN TO WASHINGTON

1. YOU MAY INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS THAT, AS FURTHER STEP
IN OUR MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORTS, PRESIDENT CARTER IS IN-
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VITING PRIME MINISTER BEGIN TO VISIT WASHINGTON DURING THE
FIRST PART OF MARCH. WHILE PRECISE DATES REMAIN TO BE
WORKED OUT, WE UNDERSTAND BEGIN WILL INFORM KNESSET
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, THAT HE HAS BEEN INVITED TO WASH-
INGTON IN THE NEAR FUTURE. YOU SHOULD SAY THAT, FOLLOWING
THE PRESIDENT'S EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT,
HE HAS CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE SIMILAR

TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN IN VIEW OF MANY DEVELOP-
MENTS THAT HAVE OCCURRED WITH RESPECT TO THE PEACEMAKING
PROCESS SINCE BEGIN-S VISIT HERE IN DECEMBER. BEFORE
BEGIN'S VISIT, WE WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION THIS
WEEK WITH FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY
ATHERTON WILL HAVE HAD PERIOD OF TIME IN THE MIDDLE EAST
TO PURSUE EFFORTS TOWARD AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL
ON A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES FOR A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE
SETTLEMENT. WE ASSUME THAT DURING SAME PERIOD NEGOTIATIONS
WILL HAVE GONE FORWARD BETWEEN EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS IN
THE MILITARY COMMITTEE IN CAIRO. OUR JUDGMENT IS THAT BY
EARLY MARCH FURTHER GROUNDWORK WILL HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED

WHICH WILL MAKE ANOTHER ROUND OF TALKS BETWEEN PRESIDENT
CARTER AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN BOTH TIMELY AND USEFUL,
TO REVIEW WHERE MATTERS STAND AT THAT TIME AND TO
EXAMINE WHAT CAN BE DONE TO OVERCOME ANY DIFFICULTIES
IN THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT MAY STILL REMAIN. THE
PRESIDENT CONSIDERS IT IMPORTANT TO HEAR FULL EXPOSITION
OF ISRAELI VIEWS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL, AS HE HAS JUST
DONE WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, AS WE MOVE FORWARD IN THE
PRESENT PHASE OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND EXAMINE
WHAT NEXT STEPS MIGHT BE TAKEN TO MAINTAIN CONTINUITY
AND PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. VANCE

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